

PROLOGUE,
AND AN
EPILOGUE.
AND
SONGS,

Spoken and Sung

To the Antient and Rt. Worshipful
Society of *Free-Masons*, at the
Theatre-Royal, on *Thursday* *November*
the 29th, 1733, being Mr.
GRIFFITH's Benefit.



D U B L I N :

Printed by G E O. FAULKNER, in *Essex-Street*,
opposite to the *Bridge*, MDCCLXXXIV.

PROLOGUE

AND AN

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To the Honourable the President
of the Society of Antiquaries at the
British Museum on Thursday Novem-
ber the 13th 1783 being Mr.
GRIFFITHS's Lecture.



DUBLIN:

Printed by G. O. FAULKNER, in Essex-Street,
opposite to the Bank, 1783.



PROLOGUE

Spoken by

Mr. *GRIFFITH.*

IF to delight, to humanize the Mind,
The *Savage World* in Social ties to bind;
To make the Moral Virtues all appear
Improv'd and Useful, soften'd from Severe:

If these demand the Tribute of our Praise
The Teachers Honour, or the Poets Lays:
How do we View 'em all compriz'd in thee,
Thrice honour'd and Mysterious *Masonry*.

By thee erected, spacious Domes arise,
And Spires Ascending glitter in the Skies;
The Wondrous whole, by Heav'nly Art is crown'd;
And Order in diversity is found.

Through such a length of Ages still how Fair,
How bright, how blooming do thy Looks appear?

A 2

And

And still shall bloom—Time as it glides away
Fears for its own before thy let decay.

The Use of Accents from thy Aid is thrown,
Thou form'st a silent Language of thy own
Disdain'st that Records shou'd contain thy Art,
And only liv'st within the faithfull Heart.

Behold where Kings and a long shining Train,
Of Garter'd *Hero's* wait upon thy Reign,
And boast no Honour, but a *Masons* Name.

Still in the dark let the unknowing Stray,
No Matter what they Judge, or what they Say :
Still may thy Mystick Secrets be conceal'd
And only to a Brother be reveal'd.



Free-Masons S O N G S.

To the Tune of, O Polly you might have toy'd and kiss'd.

I.

YE People who laugh at *Masons* draw near,
Attend to my Ballad without any Sneer,
And if you'll have Patience, you shall soon see,
What a fine Art is *Masonry*.

II.

There's none but an Atheist can ever deny
But that this great Art came first from on high,
Since

Since God himself I'll prove for to be
The first great Master of *Masonry*.

III.

He took up his Compass with masterly Hand,
He stretch'd out his Line and he measur'd the Land;
He laid the Foundations of Earth and Sea
By the first Rules of *Masonry*.

IV.

Old Grandfather *Adam*, deny it who can,
A *Mason* was made as soon as a Man;
And a Fig-Leaf Apron always wore he,
To shew his Love to *Masonry*.

V.

The principal Law our Lodge does approve,
Is, that we still live in Brotherly Love.
Thus *Cain* was banish'd, by Heaven's Decree,
For breaking Rules of *Masonry*.

VI.

The Reason that *Babel* succeeded so ill,
Was because they knew nothing of *Mason's* Skill;
For still their Tower standing would be
Had they known Rules of *Masonry*.

VII.

The Temple that wise King *Solomon* rais'd,
For Beauty, for Order, for Elegance prais'd,

To

To what did it owe all its Elegancy,
If not the Rules of *Masonry*.

VIII

But should I pretend, in my humble Verse,
The Merits of all this Art to rehearse,
Ten Days and Ten Nights too little wou'd be
To sing the Praise of *Masonry*.

IX

Then hoping I have not detain'd you too long,
I here shall beg leave to finish my Song,
With a Health to the Master, and all that are free,
And live the Art of *Masonry*.



Another.

I

ON you who *Masonry* despise
This Council I bestow,
Don't ridicule, if your are wise,
A Secret you don't know;
Your selves you banter, but not it;
You shew your Spleen, but not your Wit.

With a fa, la, la, &c.

II.

If Mirth and good Society

Have a Pretence to please,
The Brothers of *Free Masonry*
May sure lay Claim to these;
To state Disputes we ne'er give Birth,
Our Motto *Friendship is and Mirth.*

With a fa, la, la, &c.

III.

Inspiring Virtue by our Rules,
And in our selves secure,
We have Compassion for those Fools
Who think our Acts impure,
We know from Ignorance proceeds
Such mean Opinion of our Deeds.

With a fa, la, la, &c.

IV.

Some of our Rules I will impart,
But must conceal the Rest,
They're safely lodg'd in *Mason's Heart*,
Within each honest Breast;
We love our Country and our King,
We Toast the Ladies, dance and sing.

With a fa, la, la, &c.

The enter'd Prentices S O N G.

I.

COME, let us prepare
 We Brothers that are
 Assembled on merry Occasion,
 Let's Drink, Laugh and Sing,
 Our Wine has a Spring;
 Here's a Health to an Accepted *Mason*.

II.

The World is in Pain
 Our Secrets to gain,
 And still let them wonder and gaze on,
 They ne'er can divine
 The Word or the Sign
 Of a Free and an Accepted *Mason*.

III.

'Tis this and 'tis that,
 They cannot tell what;
 Why so many Great Men of the Nation,
 Shou'd Aprons put on,
 To make themselves one,
 With a Free and an Accepted *Mason*.

IV. Great

IV.

Great Kings, Dukes and Lords,
 Have laid by their Swords,
 Our Mystery to put a good Grace on,
 And ne'er been Asham'd,
 To hear themselves Nam'd

With a Free and an Accepted *Mason*.

V.

Antiquity's Pride
 We have on our Side,
 And it maketh Men Just in their Station
 There's nought but what's good,
 To be understood

By a Free and an Accepted *Mason*.

VI.

Then Joyn Hand in Hand,
 To each other firm stand;
 Let's be merry and put a bright Face on
 What Mortal can boast
 So noble a Toast,
 As a Free and an Accepted *Mason*.

B

Another

Another by R—— N—— Esq;

SOME Folks have with curious Impertinence
From the *Free Masons* Bosom their Secrets to move,
I'll tell why in vain their Endeavours must prove.

Which no Body can deny.

II.

Of that happy Secret when we are possess'd,
Our Tongues can't explain what is lodg'd in our
Breast:

For the Blessing's so great it can ne'er be express'd.

Which no Body, &c.

III.

By Friendship's strict Tyes we Brothers are join'd,
With Mirth in each Heart, and Content in each Mind;
And this is a difficult Secret to find.

Which no Body, &c.

IV.

Truth, Charity, Justice, our Principles are,
What one doth possess, the other may share:
All these in the World are Secrets most rare.

Which no Body, &c.

V.

But you who wou'd fain our grand Secret expose,
One Thing best conceal'd, to the World you disclose,
Much Folly in blaming what none of you knows.

Which no Body, &c.

VI.

VI.

While then we are met, the World's Wonder and
And all now enjoy what pleases each most, (Boast,
I'll give you the best and the most glorious Toast.

Which no Body, &c.

Here's a Health to the Generous, Brave, and the Good,
To all those who think, and who do as they shou'd:
In all this the *Free Masons* Health's understood.

Which no Body, &c.



A N

E P I L O G U E

Spoken by Mrs. BELLAMY.

WELL---here I'm come to let you know my
(Thoughts,

Nay--ben't be alarm'd--I'll not attack your Faults

A like be Safe, the *Cuckold*, and the Wit,

The *Cuckold-maker* and the Solemn Cit;

I'm in good Humour, and am come to Prattle,

Han't I a Head well turn'd d'ye think to Rattle,

But to clear up the Point, and to be Free,

What think you is my Subject?—*Masonry*;

Tho' I'm afraid, as *Lawyer's* Cases clear,

My learn'd Debate will leave you as you were,

But

But I'm a Woman——and when I say that
You know will Talk---tho'tis we know not what.

What think you Ladys, 'ant it very Hard,
That we shou'd from this Secret be Debar'd?

How comes it, that the softer Hours of Love,

To wheedle out this Secret fruitless prove,

For we can wheedle when we hope to move:

What can it Mean; why all this mighty Pother,

These Mystick Signs, and Solemn calling Brother;

That we are qualify'd in Signs are known,

We can keep Secrets too—but they're our own.

When my Good Man went first to be a *Mason*,

Tho' I resolv'd to put the smother Face on,

Yet to Speak truly, I began to fear

He must some dreadful Operation bear:

But he return'd to Satisfy each Doubt,

And brought Home every Thing he carry'd out!

Nay came improv'd, for on his Face appear'd

A pleasing Smile, that ev'ry Scruple clear'd,

Such added complaisance--so much Good Nature,

So much, so strangely alter'd for the better,

That to encrease our mutual Dear Delight,

Wou'd he were made a *Mason* every Night.